San Diego DX Club Bulletin

July 2012

June Meeting

Wednesday, June 27, 2012
At the Sizzler Steak House
3755 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite S
San Diego, CA 92123
Social Hour: 5:00 PM Dinner: 5:30 PM
Meeting: 6:30 PM

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A Word from the Prez . . .

John Barcroft, **K6AM**

The election is this month, unless of course, all the nominees run unopposed. That's just how things turned out during nominations at last month's meeting, so they were all elected by acclamation at that time. Please welcome Dan Severance, N6ERD as your new VP/program chairman, and Ed Felter, AI6O as the new Board member. Traditionally, the outgoing VP is asked to take over as President, but John, WA6L will be sidelined for the next year undergoing some serious medical treatments. I have accepted the nomination for *one* more year in that position. In addition, Ellen, N6UWW and Gail, K6GO will stay at their post another year with our thanks.

My thanks to John for his outstanding job as VP and to outgoing board member and Hall of Famer, Harry, W6YOO who after soooo many years of service, can finally focus more intently on card checking, and world travel. Also thanks to our bulletin editor Bob, K9RHY and webmaster Arnie, W7BIA for their continuing fine work keeping the lifeblood of the group flowing. And of course thanks to you for your support of our Club.

Hope you got your hotel reservation for Visalia. Things went smoothly after the initial big pileup that occurred during the first hour. Veteran reservation master, Pat, WA6MHZ, reports that the Comfort Suites next to the Convention Center is sold out but he did get a room at the Comfort Inn over by the Holiday Inn! With six hotels to choose from, everyone should be able to find something. Here's that URL again: http://www.dxconvention.com/pages/hoteltravel.html

Finally on a sad note we lost another long time member this week. Phil David, K6DLV /YB0ARA passed away on June 11 at Fallbrook Hospital after a very long and difficult battle with cancer. If you have a fond remembrance of Phil, please share it with us at this month's meeting.

73, John

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The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

Secretary and Treasurer's Reports

San Diego DX Club
May 23, 2012
Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 6:33 P.M. Guests were introduced: Rich, KI6RRQ Vista, Gary, W6GLS, Fallbrook, Carl, AG6KP, La Mesa, Ernest, W4EG, Fallbrook.

A motion was made by Gayle, K6GO and seconded by Bob, N6OX to contribute $500 to the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDX). Motion passed. A suggestion was made from the peanut gallery that Howard, KY6LA, match the donation but that only garnered chuckles from the crowd in attendance.

Elections are to be held in June unless there is no opposition. The nominating committee (John, WA6L, John, K6AM, and NOT-John but Gayle K6GO) presented the slate as follows:

President – John, K6AM

Vice-President – Dan, N6ERD

Secretary-Treasurer – Ellen, N6UWW

Board of Directors – Ed, AI6O

Typically, the Vice-President would be slated for Presidency but due to health issues, John WA6L is unable to assume that role. Please keep John in your thoughts and prayers.

The Past-President, by default, assumes the role of Past-President for another term since there is no change in the Presidency. This is not to be confused with a Passover but is something more like a Past Participle.

No nominations were made from the floor so no election is necessary and the Slate of Officers was accepted.

Harry W6YOO is retiring from Board of Directors. A big round of applause ensued as the group thanked Harry for his many years of service to the Club.

There was no new business. Top 20 Total Band Countries were announced. A Round Table discussion ensued. Bob N6OX gave a fascinating presentation on his participation in HK0NA Malpelo Island DXpedition. (thanks to K6KAL & AF6WF for digitally recording the meeting) NOTE: The Club has badges ready for K1GR & N7VM. Please contact N6UWW for delivery.

Treasurer's Report

Statement Balance 30–April, 2012	**$4,637.67**
Subtractions	$351.00
(N7CW April meeting speaker's dinner, $31.00)	
(Marsh Affinity Group Insurance premium, $320.00)	
Statement Balance 31-May, 2012	**$4,286.67**
Outstanding checks	$44.45
(N6OX speaker's dinner reimbursement, $16.69)	
(K6AM reimbursement for DXer of the Year Plaque, $27.76)	
Adjusted Balance	**$4,242.22**

Respectfully submitted,

73, Ellen

The SDDXC Top 10

John, K6AM

TOTAL BAND-COUNTRIES WORKED

6/12	6/11	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	N6ND	377	2354	2405	2892	+28
2.	2.	K6AM		2625	2677	2719	+60
3.	5.	N7CW	375	2360	2360	2631	+196
4.	4.	N6CW	360	?	2300	2606	+57
5.	8.	W6YI	355	2183	2229	2492	+156
6.	7.	W6YA	348	?	?	2389	-
7.	6.	K6XT	353	1948	1981	2354	-
8.	11.	K0XB	340	2017	2047	2178	+216
9.	9.	W6YOO	306	2095	2129	2129	+50
10.	10.	K6ZH	323	1885	1920	2110	+125
11.	12.	WN6K	307	1350	1383	1732	+28
12.	13.	K6KT		763	786	1619	-
13	15	NN6K	206	1522	1579	1609	+264
14.	18	AD6ZJ	296	1317	1329	1517	+280
15.	-.	WB6BFG	306	1199	1210	1447	NEW
16.	14.	N6VS	282	1314	1331	1382	+20
17.	16.	W6CN		1206	1228	1314	-
18.	-.	N6XT	231	898	933	1255	NEW
19.	20.	K9RHY	201	962	975	975	
20.	-.	N6KI		369	377	975	NEW

Some nice big jumps again this time in the TBC category, the granddaddy of DX'ing, Rick, N6ND holds his lead at number one for the eleventh year with the highest score I've seen on the West Coast. There's plenty of room to make a decent gain in this category by getting on those bands where your totals are still low. Things will start heating up now that the cycle is on the upswing. For the TBC list, we are showing the first 20 places to accommodate the large number of entries in this category.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser-recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 6/160 and digital followed by phone and CW. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at

http://www.sddxc.org

or bring 'em to the meeting.

73, John

SUMMER BASH 2012!

August 12th Noon

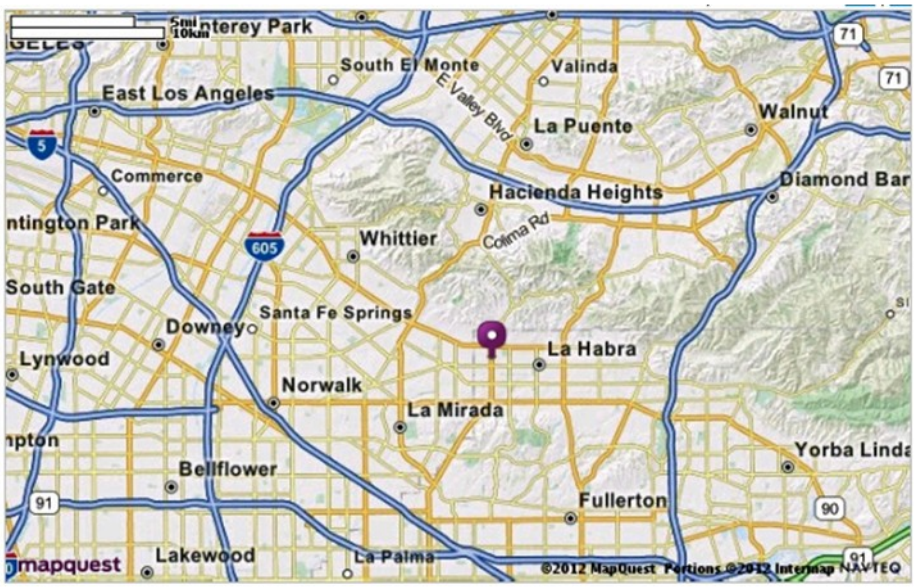
The Jacob Residence

(George, N6VNI, Kris, KC6TOD, & Carolyn, KE6BUH)
1901 El Portal Drive La Habra, CA 90631
562/691-7898

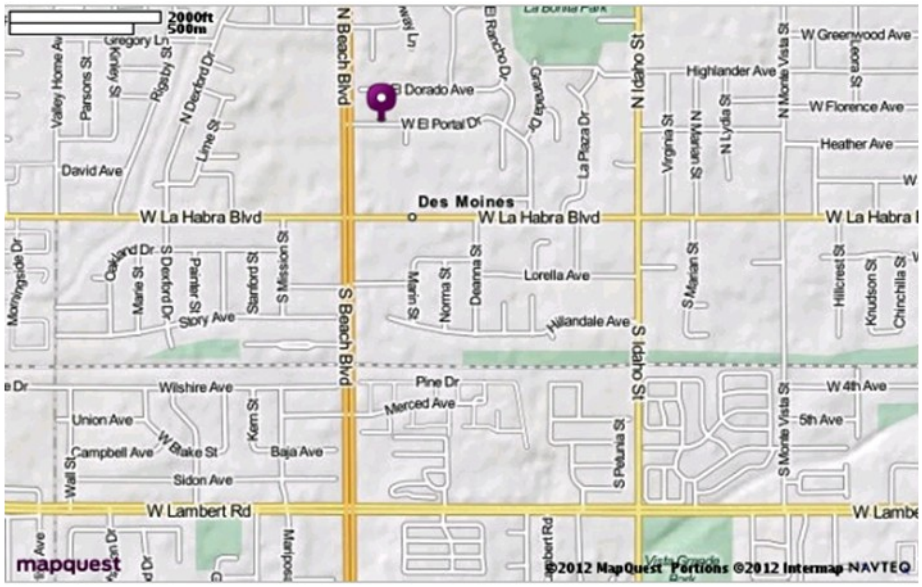
The 2012 Summer Bash will be at George and Kris' house in La Habra. There will be food, drinks and good company. This year we decided to have the food catered by a taco man! There will be four kinds of meats (beef, chicken, carnitas, al pastor) as well as hamburgers, hot dogs and munchies!

Directions

From either the 91 or the I-5 take the Beach Blvd Exit North until you hit El Portal (Costco will be on the left). Turn right look for the antenna!



From the 60 exit Hacienda Blvd South to Whittier Blvd. Make a right and proceed to Beach Blvd. Turn left and drive until El Portal. Turn left and look for the antenna!



Cover Story and Editor's Rambling

Bob Farkaly, **K9RHY**

IOTA!

The 2012 running of the annual RSGB IOTA contest is coming! The contest starts at 1200UTC on Saturday 28th July to 1200UTC Sunday 29th July 2012 (the contest always takes place over the last FULL weekend of July). With the bulk of the program's islands located in the Pacific, it is more than a bit surprising that there isn't more IOTA activity from our chip-shot-to-the-Pacific location here in SoCal.

I've been involved with—and enjoying— IOTA for many years and thought it was time to talk the program up. I started chasing islands in 1989 and my first award submission was in 1994. I'm getting my QSL cards together to send off for my 600 island endorsement shortly.

K9RHY is just a "little pistol" in the IOTA program, with the "Big Guns" all over 1000 islands and led by F9RM at 1094 (out of about 1200 possible "island entities"). But I was inactive in the IOTA program as I was in the DXCC program for years due to the demands of business and business travel.

To count for IOTA, an island has to meet a few simple rules relating to location. They must not lie in rivers, inland lakes or seas, or largely enclosed bays. They must be a minimum distance from the mainland. And they must be either 1 kilometre in length or shown on a 1:1,000,000 scale map. Island "counters" are identified by a 2-letter continent designator (AF, AN, AS, EU, NA, OC, SA) followed by three numeric digits (i.e., NA-001).

You can find anything you'd like to know about IOTA chasing on the RSGB IOTA website http://www.rsgbiota.org/

Just like the ARRL's DXCC program, the demand for rare islands is intense among a small community. You seldom see a major DXpedition to an IOTA counter. Many of the operations are from lone operators sitting under a palm tree on a remote beach running 10—150 watts to a simple antenna. Island activations are not always posted on the DXcluster.

And that is the lure of IOTA chasing! It is a lot like what DXing was all about in the Golden Days. Weak, elusive signals, lots of listening, lone-wolf operation. Good stuff.

I received my 500 island endorsement in September, 2010, and was anxious to see whether I could go from 500 to 600 in one year. It was not to be, but it was great fun. At the rate I'm going, I suspect I'll need some bionic pieces to make it to the 1000 island level.

There are lots of web sites that post information about upcoming IOTA activations. Ditto the DX bulletins. Hardly a week goes by without the announcement of a "new one" (at least for me) coming on the air. Just to make sure I don't miss too many counters, I program the "Alarm" configuration in "CC cluster" with the most recently announced operations. I fone comes on the air, I have a text message sent to my iPhone. The Cluster helps, but there is no replacement for listening.

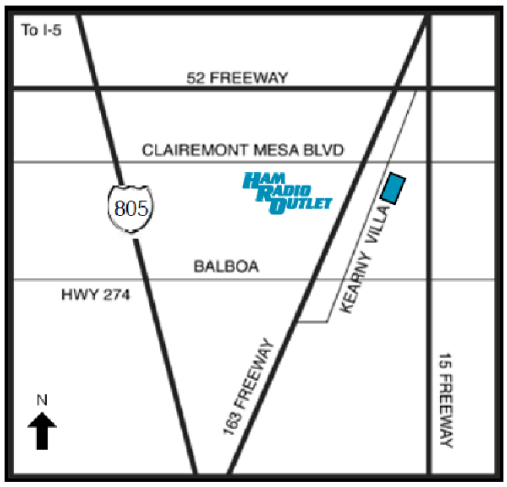
The annual RSGB IOTA contest is an opportunity to add to your IOTA totals without having to go through the hassle of the QSL exchange process. OQRS helps, but the RSGB does not accept LOTW or eQSL confirmations for IOTA.

I probably shouldn't be encouraging my potential competition to try out island chasing, but that would be outside the "ham spirit". On a selfish note, if you're listening for IOTA counters and you hear a good one. Please put it on the Cluster. I'll be watching for your text message.

73, Bob

July 2012 Contests				
Contest	**Start Date**	**Start Time**	**End Date**	**End Time**
RSGB IOTA Contest	28-Jul	1200Z	29-Jul	1200Z
NJ QSO Party	28-Jul	1600Z	29-Jul	1600Z

HAM RADIO OUTLET



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